## **EXHIBIT 4**

Picard v. Merkin

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UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In Re:

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT SECURITIES LLC,

Adv.Pro.No. 08-01789 (BRL)

Debtor.

-----x

IRVING H. PICARD, Trustee for the Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC,

Plaintiff,

Adv.Pro.No.

09-1182 (BRL)

v.

J. EZRA MERKIN, GABRIEL CAPITAL, L.P., ARIEL FUND LTD., ASCOT PARTNERS, L.P., GABRIEL CAPITAL CORPORATION,

Defendants.

VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION of JOEL

EHRENKRANZ, as taken by and before Monique Vouthouris, Certified Court Reporter, RPR, CRR and Notary Public of the States of New York and New Jersey, at the offices of BAKER HOSTETLER, 45 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, New York, on Thursday, March 20, 2014, commencing at 10:07 a.m.

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1	A. Absolutely.	1	to be a good investor.
2	Q. To your knowledge, did Mr. Merkin ever	2	Q. Did you have any understanding at that
3	provide a similar investment summary for your	3	time of any relationship between Mr. Merkin and
4	investments with his funds?	4	Mr. Madoff?
5	A. No.	5	A. I think Mr. Merkin referred to how he
6	Q. At the time that you were investing	6	would speak with Mr. Madoff about where the markets
7	with his funds, did you believe that you had full	7	were.
8	transparency to those funds' investments?	8	Q. Did you have an understanding of
9	A. When you said these, would you	9	whether Merkin and his funds were invested with
	please	10	Mr. Madoff at that time?
11	Q. Sure. With Gabriel, Ariel and Ascot.	11	A. No.
12	A. So, repeating the question, if you	12	Q. At the time of that meeting, did you
13	would.	13	have an understanding of BLMIS' investment strategy,
14	Q. During the time periods when you were	14	or at least, looking back, its purported investment
15	invested with those three funds, did you believe that	15	strategy?
16	you understood the full portfolio of the investments	16	A. Yes, it was explained to me and I
17	made by those funds?	17	understood the idea of the strategy.
18	A. I can't answer whether I understood the	18	Q. How was it explained to you?
19	full portfolio. I understood the strategies, or,	19	A. It was explained to me as a strategy I
20	rather, I was told the strategies and the percentage	20	think which is currently called a covered call
21	of the investments in each of the various classes.	21	strategy, where Mr. Madoff would buy a stock, sell it,
22	Q. And what was the source for that	22	call against it and take those proceeds, buy a put,
<u> 23</u>	information?	23	thereby protecting the downside.
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 7 18 9 0 12 23 24 25 24 25	A. Ezra Merkin.	24	Q. And who explained that to you?
25	MR. KITCHEN: We've been going about an		A. Mr. Madoff.
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1			-
1 2	hour. This is a decent break point, if you would like, or I'm happy to continue.	1 2	Q. Did Mr. Merkin ever provide you any
3	THE WITNESS: We can go on, if it's	3	information regarding BLMIS' investment strategy?  A. No.
4	okay with everyone.	4	
5	BY MR. KITCHEN:	5	Q. Did you ever have a personal relationship with Mr. Madoff?
6		6	. 2.
7	Q. Mr. Ehrenkranz, do you know Bernard Madoff?	7	A. No. Q. Did anyone, to your knowledge, from
8	A. Please tell me the word "know."	8	Ehrenkranz have a personal relationship with him?
9	Explain the word.	9	A. My brother lives in the same building
10	Q. Sure. Have you ever met him?	10	that he did, and other than seeing him in the
Ĭ1	A. Yes, sir.	11	elevator, no.
11 12	Q. When did you meet him? When did you	12	Q. And, again, this is your brother
13	first meet him?	13	Sanford. Is that right?
14	A. I met him for the only time probably	14	A. Yes.
15	about 1991, '2.	15	Q. Okay.
16	Q. And why did you meet him at that time?	16	A. My only brother.
17	A. I met him at Ezra's suggestion to	17	Q. Okay. I appreciate that, that
18	consider investing with him.	18	clarification.
19	Q. Were you considering investing with	19	To your knowledge, did Sanford ever
	Mr. Madoff at that time?	20	interact with Mr. Madoff socially?
21	A. That is why I considered meeting him.	21	A. No. Although they both belonged to the
22	Q. Do you recall anything said by	22	same country club, which is the Palm Beach Country
23	Mr. Merkin at that time regarding Madoff?	23	Club.
20 21 22 23 24	A. Other than the fact that he suggested	24	Q. Do you know which is it Palm Beach,
<b>2</b> 5	that we meet with him because he considered Mr. Madoff	25	Florida?

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1	Q. Did he ever suggest that you invest		1	purportedly executed by Mr. Madoff?
2	with Mr. Madoff indirectly through Ascot?		2	MR. STEINER: Objection to form.
3	A. Yes.		3	A. We did this on a leap of faith. A
4	Q. When did he make that recommendation?			stronger word, we had some degree of caution, but
5	A. I'm going to guess that was the year			accepted Ezra's strong statements that he could
6	I'm going to put it in '94.			provide independent verification.
7			7	
	Q. And what did he say?			Q. Did he ever provide such statements to
8	A. He said that he was creating a fund to			you?
9	invest with Mr. Madoff and that he encouraged us to		9	A. No, but said he was doing it.
10	invest in that fund and that he would provide the	1		Q. Did he give any more details as to how
	independent verification that we found lacking in a	1:		the verification was done?
12	satisfactory mode.	1:		A. No yes. He said he had an employee
13	Q. Did he explain how that independent	1:		in his office, and that when these slips came through
14	verification would be done?	1.		and the very basic transactions as indicated occurred,
15	A. He said he was going to have someone in	1.		that his person would check the stocks were bought and
11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	his office go ahead and monitor the trades that were	1		sold on the Exchange at around that time at around
<del>1</del> 7	made by Mr. Madoff at the time he made them and have			that price.
18	an accounting firm go ahead and monitor it also, give	1		Q. I believe you've already testified that
19	independent verification of it, a recognized	1	9	the investment in Ascot was made by DAS.
20	accounting firm.	2	0	A. Yes.
21	Q. Do you recall who that firm was?	2:	1	Q. Or at that point in time it was DIS.
22	A. I don't.	2:	2	A. Yes.
23	Q. Do you recall if they had a	2:	3	Q. How large was that investment?
24	relationship with Mr. Madoff, I'm sorry, with	2	4	A. I don't remember. It was probably
25	Mr. Merkin or his	2.	5	it was not a large investment in terms of the
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1	A. I believe it was the same accounting		1	respective size. I'm going to guess it was between 1
2	firm that was the one that did the audit of Gabriel.			and 2 percent position of that fund.
3	Q. I'll represent to you that the auditor		3	Q. Would you consider that to be
4	at that time period for Merkin's funds was BDO			substantial?
5	Seidman, or at least the successor that's now known as		5	A. It's substantial in dollars, but not
6	BDO Seidman. Does that refresh your recollection as			
7	to the name of the auditor?		_	substantial in the sense of the allocation of the
	A. Not really, no.			investments.
8	•		8	Q. Did you have other managers that you
	Q. Did you have a response to his proposal			allocated larger percentages to at that time?
10	then?	1	_	A. Probably every almost all other
11	A. Our response ultimately was that we would make an investment.	1:		managers.
12		1:		Q. And correct me if I'm wrong, I believe
13	Q. Did you believe that his staff or	1:		you testified that DAS was also invested with Ariel
14	perhaps his auditor was able to provide independent	1		and Gabriel
15	verification?	1.		A. No. I think I said Gabriel.
16	A. We had sufficient confidence in Ezra	1		Q at that time.
17	because of his investing what we perceived to be	1		A. Yes.
18	his investing skills, that we believed that he would	1:		Q. How did Mr. Merkin describe Ascot
19	be able to overcome what was aware our skepticism and	1		Partners' investment strategy to you?
20	great concern about the verification of the trades	2		A. He proceeded to say he was giving the
21 22 23	since Mr. Madoff seemed to have a fabulous way to make			money to Mr. Madoff.
22	money in all markets.	2:		Q. Did he explain what his role was with
23	Q. Do you recall ever expressing	2	3	respect to Ascot?
24 25	skepticism that Merkin's staff or Merkin's auditor	2.	4	A. No.
25	would be able to independently verify the trades	2.	5	Q. Did you understand if he had any role